

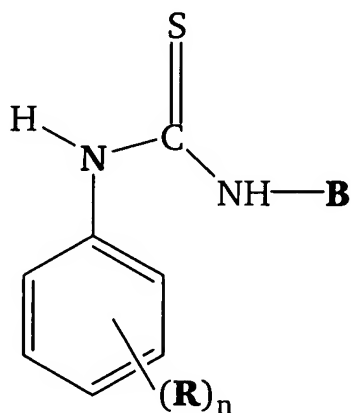
Applicant: Paul K. Smith
Appl'n. No.: 10/741,496
Filed: December 19, 2003
Page 2 of 7

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 11, 16-17, 21 and 25-27 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicant's right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future divisional or continuation application. Please amend Claims 9, 10, 22, 23 and 24, and add new Claims 28 and 29 as set forth below.

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A The compound represented by the formula



where **B** is an reacted amino group-containing biomolecule;

R is -NHC(O)-O-**M**;

where n=1 or 2;

M is a polyethylene glycol or a polysaccharide; ~~reacted alcohol-containing~~
macromolecule; and

-**R** is para, meta or di-meta relative to -NHC(S)-NH-**B**.

10. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 9, ~~21~~ where **M** is methoxy polyethylene glycol.

11. (Canceled)

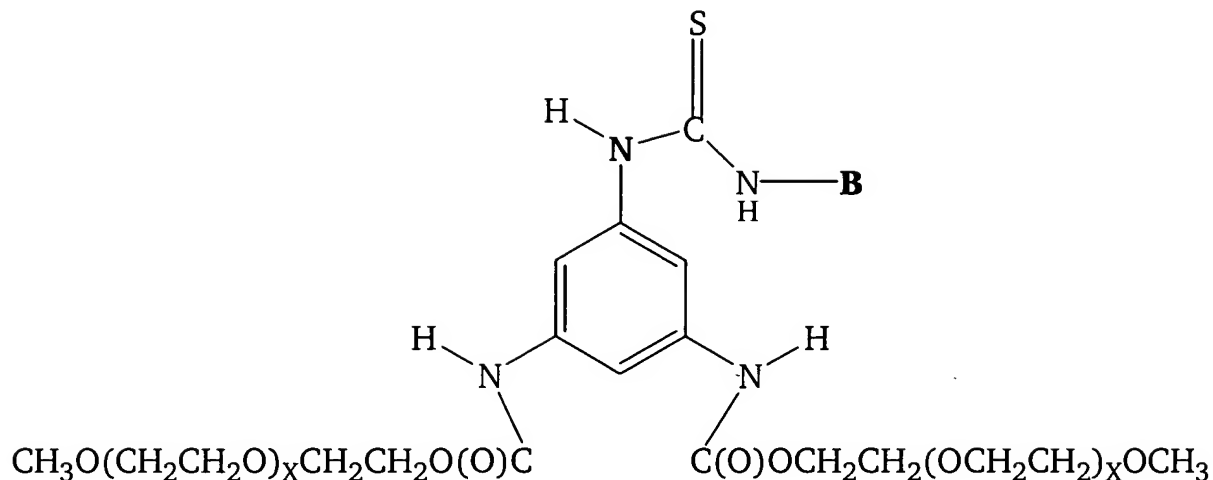
12. (Previously presented) The compound according to Claim 9 wherein said biomolecule **B** is streptavidin.

13-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 9, ~~21~~ wherein the polysaccharide is dextran, cellulose, starch or agarose.

23. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~reacted~~ methoxy polyethylene glycol is $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_x-\text{O}-\text{CH}_3$ and x is an average value that is about 5 to about 500.

24. (Currently amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 23~~
A compound represented by the formula



wherein ~~said compound is represented by the formula above and~~ x is an average value that is about 5 to about 500 and wherein **B** is an amino group-containing biomolecule.

25-27. (Canceled)

28. (New) The compound of Claim 9, wherein **B** is a protein or a polypeptide.

29. (New) The compound of Claim 24, wherein **B** is a protein or a polypeptide.